

## Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 /012 R

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DRAFTED BY IO/TRC:MPEHOYT:BAS

APPROVED BY IO-R.MCNAULL

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R 211751Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MADRID

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NOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION ANKARA INFO ISTANBUL, GENEVA,  
MEXICO FROM DEPT 07 APR.

QUOTE: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 078855

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, ETRD, RP, WTO

SUBJECT: WTO HEADQUARTERS

REF: ANKARA 2673

1. WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION (WTO) HAS COME ABOUT FROM TRANSFORMATION ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OFFICIAL TRAVEL OFFICES (IUOTO) WITH COMING INTO FORCE OF WTO STATUTES NOVEMBER 1, 1974 FOLLOWING DEPOSIT OF 51ST RATIFICATION. (US HAS NOT YET DEPOSITED RATIFICATION, BUT IS ELIGIBLE TO FUNCTION AS FULL MEMBER OF NEW ORGANIZATION DURING TRANSITIONAL FIRST YEAR.) WTO WILL HOLD FIRST ASSEMBLY IN MADRID IN MAY AND QUESTION OF SITE OF PERMANENT HEADQUARTERS WILL BE CONSIDERED THEN. IUOTO HEADQUARTERS IS IN GENEVA AND WILL SERVE AS PROVISIONAL SITE OF WTO HEADQUARTERS UNTIL PERMANENT SITE SELECTED BY TWO-THIRDS DECISION OF ASSEMBLY.

2. AS NUMBER OF SITES HAVE BEEN OFFERED (MEXICO CITY,  
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GENEVA, MADRID, NEW DELHI, ISTANBUL, ZAGREB, MANILA), TWO-

THIRDS SUPPORT FOR A SINGLE CANDIDATE MAY NOT MATERIALIZE AT FIRST ASSEMBLY, IN WHICH CASE GENEVA WILL REMAIN PROVISIONAL SITE. DAKAR WAS OFFERED BUT WITHDRAWN (POSSIBLY IN DEFERENCE TO MEXICO CITY CANDIDACY. DEPARTMENT

RECEIVED AIDE-MEMOIR FROM GREEK EMBASSY APRIL 4 ANNOUNCING CANDIDACY OF ISLAND OF CORPU. OTHER SITES HAVE BEEN SUGGESTED INFORMALLY, BUT WITHOUT STATE SPONSORSHIP AS YET.

3. PRESIDENT NIXON COMMITTED THE US TO SUPPORT ZAGREB, HAVING MADE COMMITMENT TO PRESIDENT TITO DURING A VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA. US INTENDS TO MAINTAIN THIS COMMITMENT SO LONG AS ZAGREB APPEARS TO BE VIABLE CANDIDATE. IF IT BECOMES CLEAR THAT ZAGREB CANDIDACY IS UNLIKELY TO SUCCEED, US WILL BE PREPARED TO PUT FORWARD AND SUPPORT CANDIDACY OF HONOLULU.

4. WITH FEW EXCEPTIONS WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, USSR, EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, AND CANADA SUPPORT RETENTION OF GENEVA. MEXICO HAS CAMPAIGNED HARD TO HAVE MEXICO CITY SELECTED, APPEARS TO HAVE BROAD SUPPORT OF LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES, AND CLAIMS TO HAVE WON SUPPORT FROM A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES OUTSIDE OF THAT REGION.

5. PICTURE PRESENTLY IS CONFUSED, AND, GIVEN US POSITION ON QUESTION (PARA 3 ABOVE), DEPARTMENT HOPES TO AVOID BEING DRAWN FURTHER INTO DEBATE ON QUESTION BEFORE FIRST WTO ASSEMBLY CONVENES. SO FAR AS WE CAN ASSESS, SUPPORT FOR ISTANBUL IS DISTINCTLY LESS THAN THAT WHICH HAS BEEN GENERATED FOR GENEVA AND MEXICO CITY. INGERSOLL UNQTE KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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